

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2003-77-C - ORDER NO. 2004-498
OCTOBER 14, 2004

IN RE: Application of BellSouth Public) ORDER HOLDING
Communications, Inc. for Approval to Divest) MOTION FOR
Itself of its Assets) EXPEDITED REVIEW IN
) ABEYANCE

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Motion for Expedited Review filed by BellSouth Public Communications, Inc. (“BSPC”). By its Motion, BSPC requests that the Commission consider and approve BSPC’s application in which BSPC seeks approval to divest itself of its assets.

In other action in the instant docket, this Commission has ordered the creation of a separate docket in which to examine the issue of, and the issues surrounding, Public Interest Payphones. Previously, parties to the instant docket had raised the issue of Public Interest Payphones in the instant docket. Now that the Commission has ordered a separate proceeding to consider Public Interest Payphones, certain parties have withdrawn their intervention and participation in the instant docket and indicate they will participate in the newly created docket on Public Interest Payphones. However, at this time, the Commission believes that the new docket and this docket, in which BSPC seeks to divest

itself of its assets, may be linked. Certainly, parties have indicated that certain discovery obtained in this docket could be used in the Public Interest Payphone docket.

Due to the potential connection between the instant docket and the Public Interest Payphone docket, the Commission finds good cause to hold BSPC's Motion in abeyance for two months. This extra time will allow the Commission to notice the Public Interest Payphone docket and possibly reach a decision in that docket before ruling on BellSouth's request to exit the payphone market.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion for Expedited Review filed by BSPC shall be held in abeyance for a period of two months.
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)